

Dorchester

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Moving forward together in 2017

AS 2016 draws to a close, the Mayor of Dorchester, Councillor Tim Harries, and his wife Anita, reflect on what has been an exciting year for the county town.

In a New Year's message to the people of Dorchester and surrounding villages, the mayor reflects on a year of royal visits, and celebrates the community spirit and sense of unity that can be found in the town.

Councillor Harries said: "As one year comes to an end and another opens up before us, it is a time to reflect on all that has passed and our hopes for the future.

"This past year was indeed eventful for Dorchester, crowned by the visit of not one, but four members of the Royal Family.

"It was an honour to meet the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Charles and the Duchess of Cornwall on their arrival in our lovely town. Regardless of your views on Poundbury – very much an integral part of Dorchester and not a village near Dorchester as many in the media think – Queen Mother Square is an imposing addition to the development and really comes into its own when lit up after dark.

"Congratulations should go to those who put in so much time and effort to give us a successful carnival and Christmas Cracker Night. "The Borough Gardens filled with the sound

of music on more than one occasion, hosted the One World Festival and only a few weeks ago resounded to the sound of carol singers.

"Visiting mayors were treated to tours of the Keep Military Museum and the Dorset County Museum, and were suitably impressed with all they saw. The New Hardy Players brought Max Gate to life with their own superb thespian talents, a fitting end to the day.

"The future is looking good for our county town. The Service of Unity held in October demonstrated how people of all faiths can come together in friendship. Just one small step, but one which has already reverberated around Dorchester, a foundation stone upon which we must build, especially in such unsettling times. A new school for Damers, exciting plans for the museum and the Shire Hall all bodes well for years to come. And we are fortunate to be surrounded by many charities and local organisations, run by many dedicated and hard-working volunteers, helping so many and bringing relief to those who need it. "We wish them continued success for 2017, as we do each and every person who has the good fortune to live in Dorchester.

"There will be changes, but we must move forward together, in hope and anticipation. It only remains to wish you all a happy, peaceful and prosperous New Year."



■ MAYOR and Mayoress of Dorchester
Tim and Anita Harries

Another bus stop will be removed

ANOTHER Dorchester bus stop is being removed by First – shortly after protests about the removal of a stop from Damers Road.

The company say that from Sunday, January 15th, they will remove the bus stop in Acland Road, Dorchester as part of changes from that day to the 10 and X51 services.

But the company say that while they are removing the Acland Road stop a new one is being introduced on Brewery Square for southbound trips only.

Other changes include revisions to the timetables to both the 10 and the X51 with the

Monday to Friday for the X51 service seeing the introduction of a new service from Dorchester at 2010 which arrives in Bridport at 2047.

Also on the weekday timetable, the 1811 service from Dorchester to Bridport will operate five minutes later.

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Christmas lights switch-on highlights organ donation



HOSPITAL staff erect a Christmas tree to highlight the importance of discussing your wishes around organ donation

STAFF at Dorset County Hospital asked people to think about the gift of organ donation as they switched on their Christmas tree lights.

The hospital's organ donation team has sponsored a tree to highlight the importance of discussing your wishes around organ donation

with your family.

The lights for the tree were kindly donated by local firm Knighton Plumbing and Heating.

Dr Andrew Ball, Critical Care Consultant and Clinical Lead for Organ Donation, said: "We have sponsored a Christmas tree for the hospital in the South Wing courtyard to encourage everyone to consider their feelings about organ donation at this time of giving."

"Despite a doubling in the number of organs donated over the last

years, people are dying every day whilst waiting for a transplant.

"To help us help them, we need you to discuss your wishes with your family and friends and to register these. Without this information it is often difficult for relatives to appreciate the choices their loved ones have made.

"Register your choice today - make a choice, make it known."

To find out more about how to register visit the Organ Donation website at www.organdonation.nhs.uk.

Top service from bathroom company



FROM left Edward Boot, Claire Mountain, Paul Ackerman, Dani Ackerman & Patrick Ackerman

A DORCHESTER bathroom company has scored highly among mystery shoppers.

Each month kbbreview, the UK's leading business magazine for the kitchen and bathroom industry, selects a town and subsequently mystery shops the independent kitchen and bathroom retailers there.

Last month saw Dorchester fall under their respected spotlight. And Bathroom Inspirations stood out from the crowd scoring eight out of 10 among the mystery shoppers.

Paul Ackerman, from Bathroom Inspirations, said: "To get something like this out of the blue reinforces all of our hard work and the ethos that we always try to adhere to at Bathroom Inspirations. We do the best job we possibly can for every customer that walks through the door."

Bathroom Inspirations have

been now been shortlisted along with three other businesses in the kbbreview Retail & Design Awards 2017 - Customer Service Category.

These national awards are the principal social and networking event for the kitchen and bathroom industry with over 800 guests attending this glittering industry celebration, which this year is being held at the Hilton Birmingham Metropole on March 27th 2017.

Patrick Ackerman, co-owner of Bathroom Inspirations, said: "When we got the call from kbbreview I was in shock, firstly we had no idea they had visited and secondly Paul and I have been to this event in the past and it's a huge thing. Fingers crossed for March."

The team at Bathroom Inspirations are now eagerly waiting to hear the results on the night of Monday 27th March.

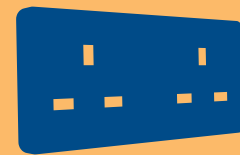

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All announcements must be in by 12 noon on Friday for the following weeks publication.

Commissioner asks if council tax should be increased for policing

COULD you spare £3.80 per year to boost policing services in Dorset?

Police and Crime Commissioner, Martyn Underhill is urging Dorset residents to take part in a consultation, which will help him decide whether to freeze or raise the part of the Council Tax bill which is used to pay for policing in the county.

In the last five years, Dorset Police's budget has been cut by £19million in real terms by central Government and will continue to be cut by £1million every year for the next three years.

Cuts

In Dorset, around half of the police budget comes from the Government and the rest is made up from local Council Tax with the responsibility for setting the cost falling to the locally elected PCC.

Dorset Police and Crime Commissioner, Martyn Underhill, said: "The Chief Constable has formally requested that I raise the precept to allow the force to meet the challenges facing policing.

"A maximum rise of £3.80 per year in Council Tax would generate £1.07million income, meaning we would have roughly the same amount of money as this year, taking into account our ongoing government cuts.

"However, we found out today that Government have further reduced the amount they give to us in order to hold back more money for special initiatives.

"When the Chancellor announced, in November 2015, that there would be no more cuts to policing, this was based on the expectation that PCCs would raise the policing element of the Council Tax bill every year until 2019.

"I'd like to thank residents for supporting a rise last year. Without it, the force would have had to lose 23 operational police officers and seven police staff dedicated to frontline operational support."

Last year, more than 4,000 residents responded to

the consultation with 82 per cent supporting a rise.

Assistant Chief Constable, Mark Cooper, said: "Last year's precept increase made a real difference to policing in Dorset – helping us to tackle new threats and to improve our use of technology, both in investigations and engagement with the public.

"Again, we are facing financial pressures in real terms. While we'd obviously remain able to respond to emergencies and carry out other critical tasks, budget reductions make it difficult to innovate and improve how we work.

"If Dorset residents support a relatively small rise to council tax contributions, we are again pledging to invest in specific areas that we have been told are important to local people. You would also see these improvements happening quickly over the next year."

If Council tax were to be raised in 2017/18, this would be invested in: Protecting adults at risk of harm; Improving response to common, non-emergency types of crime; And continuing to embrace new technology.

The Police and Crime Commissioner's office will be undertaking a number of roadshow events in January 2017, throughout the county, offering residents a further opportunity to let me know what they think.

Following feedback from Dorset residents, Mr Underhill will put his precept proposals to the Police and Crime Panel on February, 3rd 2017 for their comments.

Once the Commissioner has listened to their views he will make his final decision.

To take part in the survey visit www.dorsetpoliceprecept.com. Roadshow events will take place in Weymouth and Dorchester on: Tuesday, January 10th from 11am -1pm at Morrisons, Weymouth and from 2pm - 6pm at Portland Tesco. The team will be at Dorchester Tesco on Thursday, January 12th from 11am - 1pm.

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Community invited to adopt a tree

PICTURED is Community Development Worker Julie Hursthouse, children from Bincombe Valley Primary School, representatives from Big4Littlemoor, and Matthew Hancock and Anna Lewis from W J South West

FAMILIES in the Littlemoor area of Weymouth are being invited to adopt a fruit tree as part of a new community orchard project.

The trees have been donated by WJ Roadmarkings as part of a carbon off-setting measure within a contract with Dorset Highways.

A local partnership made up of Big4Littlemoor, Bincombe Valley Primary School and Westfield School will be working closely with Julie Hursthouse, Community Development Worker for Dorset Councils Partnership, and officers from Dorset County Council to make the project a success.

The community orchard will be planted at the eastern end of Littlemoor in an area known as the Wyke Oliver Pond, which is part of the Lorton Valley Nature Park.

Residents and families will be able to adopt and choose their own tree to plant and enjoy for the future.

Julie Hursthouse, Weymouth and Portland Community Development Officer, said: "This is a fantastic opportunity for local people to get involved in a project that has endless potentials; as family event days, sharing recipe ideas, information pages on websites,

cooking blogs and working with the schools it is creating a lasting legacy for all."

The area of land and large pond is owned by Dorset County Council and is being managed as a wildlife reserve to link the historic Ridgeway with the Lorton Valley. Developer FH Cummings has installed a gate to ensure easy access for residents and walkers.

Dr Phil Sterling, Coast and Countryside Service Manager, said: "Throughout the design and construction of the Weymouth Relief Road, we have aimed to make a virtue of necessary engineering features such as ponds needed for collecting water off the road.

"This is a great opportunity for the community to help us shape the long term future of Wyke Oliver Pond as a publicly-accessible wildlife site on their doorstep."

Planting days will take place in the New Year, where all the trees, equipment and adoption labels will be available.

If you are interested in adopting a tree or being part of the community orchard project please contact Julie Hursthouse on 01305 838497 or email jhursthouse@dorset.gov.uk, or call into Littlemoor library.

Hospital searching for cancer appeal fund-raiser

By Trevor Bevins

THE trust which runs Dorset County Hospital is offering up to £48,000 for a job position of "fund-raiser", almost double what it pays some first year junior doctors.

The job, advertised this week, promises between £40,000 and £48,000, plus unspecified 'benefits' to the right candidate.

The hospital charity is trying to raise £1.75million for its work with cancer patients – but has been hampered by negative feelings locally about a reorganisation of services which many people feel is not what they want.

In its recruitment material the trust said: "Your track record in fundraising should speak for itself, and you will have plenty to say about how we can improve our practices and enhance our income. Needless to say, you will be fully versed in managing major campaigns, exceptionally astute about marketing and extremely media-savvy, and you will bring a high level of financial literacy and meticulous attention to detail."

It also says that the position will involve leading a team of fund-raisers, but not say how many, or whether some of these will be volunteers.

"Our charity is central to everything we do – so your importance cannot be overstated. Right now, we're aiming to raise £1.75million to transform our facilities for cancer patients and we have lots of other ideas for the future. You will bring them to life as you build our fundraising capacity to give us the income we need to transform people's health. Setting a clear strategy and some ambitious benchmarks, you will define and deliver new income streams from trusts and Foundations, high net worth individuals, local businesses, the media, patients and of course existing donors. We want you to make your team the best in the business, with all the training and confidence they need to succeed – and with the passion to innovate

and apply their imagination to boost our bottom line."

The job advert also offers an insight into how the hospital is expecting to see its future income being generated – with an increasing emphasis on charity giving to maintain services.

The Hospital in Dorchester, where the job will be based, is the area's main provider of acute hospital services to a quarter of a million people and renal service to almost a million.

Applications for the post have to be submitted by January 3rd.

All board! Rail stations see rise in passenger numbers

WEYMOUTH and Dorchester rail stations are the busiest in the county – after Bournemouth and Poole.

The Office of Rail and Road figures for 2015/16 show the number of entries and exits to train stations.

Weymouth has 742,236 passenger trips, followed by Dorchester South with 481,015 entries and exits with Dorchester West showing up with 134,105 and Maiden Newton with 20,582.

At Upwey 44,042 were recorded and 57,522 at Moreton.

The least busy station is Chetnole, with just 1,946 entries and exits in a year, equivalent of five people a day using the request halt.

Thornford had just 2,874 people using it in the past year, less than eight people per day.

Across the county the figures for the year were almost 35,000 up on 2014-2015 - with 7,555,362 entries and exits compared with 7,521,936.



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Parks team honoured for work in gardens

WEYMOUTH and Portland's parks and open spaces team have been celebrating their Weymouth Civic Society awards.

The society recognised the hard work that goes in to maintaining the borough's open spaces in two separate awards. One was to commend the Parks and Open Spaces staff for their work in planting and maintaining the council-run public gardens and open spaces, including the flower beds on Weymouth Esplanade.

The society also singled out the work that the borough council has carried out in Greenhill Gardens.

Weymouth Civic Society celebrated the

chalets, the Bennett's Shelter and the high standards of planting.

Weymouth & Portland Borough Council along with local firm Hammond Building Contractors worked on the chalets for eight weeks to rebuild and restore two fire-damaged chalets to a high quality, complementing their original 1920's look.

Councillor Andy Blackwood, Weymouth & Portland Borough Council's Community Facilities Briefholder, said: "We are honoured that the Weymouth Civic Society has recognised some of the gems in our borough."

"We understand the importance of having

public open spaces for residents and visitors to enjoy and we are lucky to have dedicated teams that work incredibly hard to keep community facilities like

the gardens maintained to the highest standard."

■ (RIGHT) THE Parks and Open Spaces Team with their award



Carol singing surprise for shoppers

SHOPPERS at Portland's Tesco store were in for a singing surprise when the island's Alzheimer's Society Singing for the Brain group took to the shop floor and sang Christmas carols and medleys for the morning.

The usual traditional carols were sung, along with some more unusual choices including an entertaining new version of an old carol, "Hark! The Carol Singers Sing", and finishing up with a song wishing the whole store a merry Christmas.

The aim of the singing session was to raise awareness of Singing for the Brain groups and how beneficial singing and music can be for people affected by dementia.

A collection was also held to raise money for the charity.

Melanie Gale, Alzheimer's Society peer support group facilitator said: "Many of the light-hearted singing activities tap into the distinct area of the brain that store musical memories - it's not at all unusual for people with memory loss to recall tunes and words of songs, and even harmonies."

"The Singing for the Brain group members and friends all looked fantastic in their festive outfits and



really brought their Christmas cheer. We were so impressed by the shoppers' generosity and managed to raise £91 in just one hour.

"Thanks to Tesco for once again being so kind to us and making us feel so welcome"

The Singing for the Brain group provides a support network for people with dementia and their carers and family, as well as a morning of fun and laughter every fortnight.

The first New Year's session will be on Wednesday, January 4th. It will be held at All Saints Church hall, behind Tophill library. The doors open at 10am giving people a chance to chat over refreshments with other members of the group, followed by an hour of singing from 10.30am.

If you'd like to join the group you can just drop in, or for more information contact the Alzheimer's Society on 0300 123 1916.

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Strike up the band!

DURNOVARIA Silver Band members donned their Christmas hats to entertain shoppers in the county town before Christmas.

Their performance was the last of the year in Dorchester in what has been the band's 80th anniversary year.

Said Engagement Secretary, Anna Slade: "We would like to thank local people for the support and appreciation they have shown over the year and look forward to another busy year in 2017."

During the year the band have played several times in Dorchester, at Abbotsbury Gardens, for Catstock Fete and in the grounds of Athelhampton House during the Five Churches Fete.

They were also at the County Show and had a September concert in the Borough Gardens.

Over the years the band have met for practice at a number of locations around the town, including the former Colliton Street youth club site, but now have their own band hall – the former Methodist Chapel in King's Road where they meet every Friday evening. "They are an absolute tribute to the town," said Band President Les Phillips, three times former mayor of the town, who was out with them.



■ **ABOVE: John Cull with his B Flat Bass; RIGHT: Engagement Secretary Anna Slade**



Council reassurance over care review

DORSET County Council claims that a review it is carrying out is not aimed at reducing the level of social care it provides.

The statement comes after concerns that many older people, adults with disabilities and those with mental health issues, would find care packages being reduced as the county council struggles to fund services following Government budget cuts to the county.

"Despite the challenges of increasing demand for social care services and reduced funding from Central Government, the county council is not looking to reduce the care that individuals receive. We will be looking to work in closer partnership with our provider organisations to enable people to maximise their independence," said Councillor Jill Haynes, Cabinet

Member for Adult Social Care.

The council is currently working with the Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) to look at how it provides care and support to vulnerable people.

The current provider contracts are up for renewal in November 2017. Last week the county council's Cabinet approved plans for the re-procurement of these contracts.

The council says it is "exploring a wide range of options and opportunities, including working more closely with partners and providing services in different forms in community and residential settings. This project is about making sure we deliver the very best provision for our local residents."

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Donkey brings smiles to residents

A RETIRED beach donkey captured hearts when she made a seasonal visit to a North Dorset care home.

Jasmine was a firm favourite on Weymouth beach for many years and even met The Queen when the monarch visited the resort in 2009.

Now aged 38, Jasmine proved a huge hit when she toured Colten Care's

Newstone House in Sturminster Newton.

She was introduced to residents in the home's main lounge and also visited individual rooms.

Among the people she met was Rita Woodhouse, 98, who used to own a donkey and described Jasmine as "gorgeous."

Imogen Deacon, Activities Organiser, said: "This was Jasmine's second visit to Newstone House. It's one of our most popular activities."

"Her background as a beach donkey means she loves people and is very sociable. The residents love meeting her."

Jasmine is owned by West Hill Donkeys which operates the famous Weymouth beach donkeys.

Custodian Melanie Rush said: "She's our most senior donkey and something of a grand old lady with a lovely temperament."

"Jasmine is used to being at the centre of attention and enjoys company so is perfect for visiting care homes. It's lovely to see the pleasure she brings, particularly if the residents used to own animals."



■ ROSEMARY Wray, a resident at Colten Care's Newstone House in Sturminster Newton, welcomes former beach donkey Jasmine to her room



■ GEOFFREY Anderson meets Jasmine, a former beach donkey



■ LOCAL author inspires student writers

Author visit inspires students

A NUMBER of budding young writers at The Wey Valley School in Weymouth spent an afternoon with local author Kate Kelly.

Kate has written all her life and has had a number of science fiction short stories published in various magazines and anthologies.

Red Rock, a fiction thriller, is her first novel.

Kate studied Geology and Oceanography at University and now works as a Marine Scientist. However, her interest in these subjects has inspired many of the themes in her writing.

Kate spent the afternoon working with 15 keen creative writers from years seven and eight be-

fore Christmas to generate ideas for their own stories.

Kate said: "I thoroughly enjoyed working with the students and I hope they finished off their pieces as they had some wonderful ideas."

Kathy O'Boone, English teacher at Wey Valley added: "The students really enjoyed the freedom to bounce ideas off each other and Kate was impressed by their responses."

Ms O'Boone will be judging the completed stories at the school's writing club.

Ms O'Boone thanked Kate for inspiring the students and commended the group with their ideas and excellent writing pieces.

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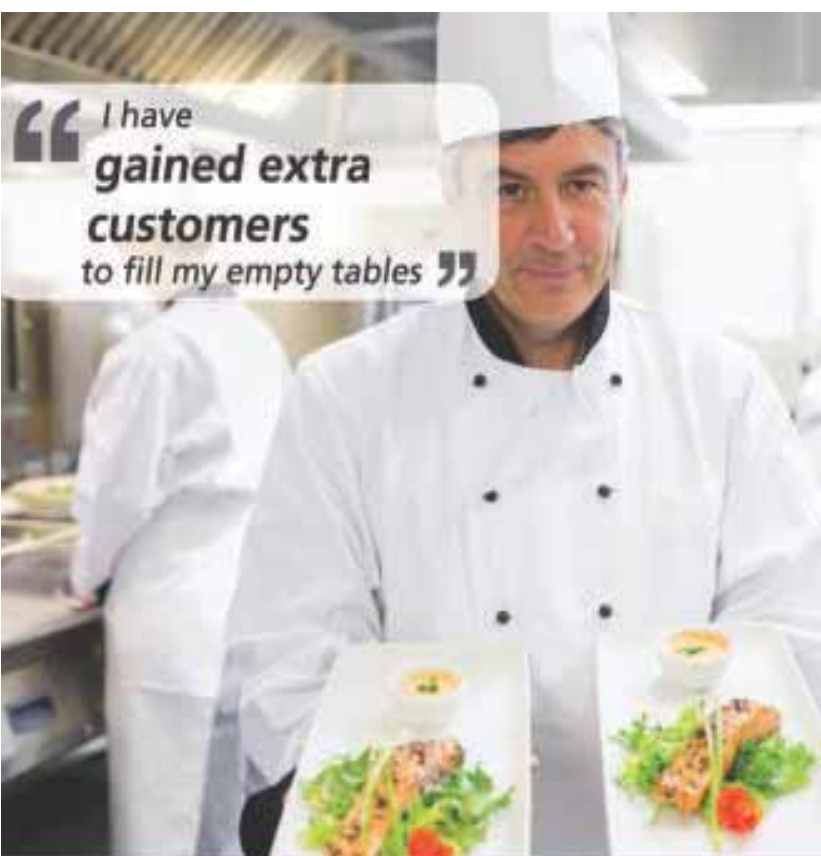
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■ **ROBIN Marshall, James Bailey and Caspar Whitehill with the 1890 traction engine Bess**

Christmas get-together with a difference

CAR and engine enthusiasts were in their element for a Christmas social with a difference at the Sun Inn, Lower Burton.

Steam traction engines, classic cars, vintage lorries and stationary engines were all on show at the pub on the outskirts of Dorchester.

One of the exhibits, a 1890 William Allchin traction engine, had taken four hours to get there – driven from Winfrith at a stately three-four miles an hour.

"We won't be staying long, we shall soon need to be heading back," said driver Robin Marshall who was assisted on the journey by James Bailey and the Caspar Whitehill (12) the grandson of the owner, Stephen Hub-buck.

The machine, known as Bess, which arrived with a caravan, is the oldest of its type still working.

The gathering is arranged by Nick Aplin, vice chair of the Transport of Yesteryear group: "It's our annual get together and Christmas social – something we all look forward to."

Apart from the Transport of Yesteryear group others at the gathering included members of the Weymouth Vehicle Preservation group and the Wessex Stationary Engine Club.

Amongst them was Melvin Gillham, from Portland, who had brought along a Lister Junior stationary engine, driving a rare Zi-



■ **MELVIN Gillham from Portland with a Lister Junior driving a rare Ziquardt water pump**

quardt water pump, which Melvin had adapted from a crop sprayer.

Other rarities at the event in-

cluded a 1902 Renault belonging to John Orford from Stinsford and a 1927 Alvis which Don Rowley from Preston owns.



■ **NICK Aplin from the Transport of Yesteryear group**



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What a year it's been! O'briens have been working hard for our customers all year across all the divisions of the company, namely Roofing, Building and Scaffolding, and we are sure a lot of you have seen various different vans travelling around the area.

O'brien Roofing & Leadworks Limited is a family run business based in Bridport, Dorset, and was established in 2003 by Daniel O'Brien.

We are proud to say that we can also offer two further divisions – O'brien Building Services and O'brien Scaffolding, hence now known, in short, as O'briens.

O'brien Roofing & Leadworks



Originally established, as the name suggests, specialising in roofing and leadwork with numerous local builders, Local Authorities and Housing Associations and gaining a reputation for high quality workmanship.

O'briens specialise in leadwork, welding and bossing, as well as installation and repair of guttering from traditional cast iron gutters to modern UPVC materials. For added peace of mind, customers can also feel safe in the knowledge that the company is approved by the Lead Sheet Association (LSA), who is the foremost independent technical authority on the design, specification and use of rolled lead in the construction industry.

In addition to leadwork, the company undertakes all roof slating and roof tiling work from slipped slates to a complete re-roof, on domestic buildings, churches and commercial units. O'brien is a registered member of The National Federation of Roofing Contractors (NFRC) who provide insurance backed guarantees for qualifying domestic re-roofs and new work and are consequently accredited to the TrustMark Scheme, a Government endorsed standards scheme.

The NFRC is the UK's largest and longest established roofing trade federation, which requires members to comply with a strict Code of Practice and to install products that comply with British Standards or have a Third Party Accreditation.

Vetting of the company is carried out regularly by both the National Federation of Roofing Contractors as well as the Lead Sheet Association.

In addition, O'briens is also an approved Topseal GRP (Glassfibre Reinforced Polyester) flat roofing installer, which means that all roofing operatives are trained in the system and are fully certified. All roofing contracts carried out using the Topseal system are covered by a 25 year manufacture backed warranty scheme.

O'briens offers the best service possible. All customers are provided with advice and quotations free and without obligation.

All employees are trained to work safely at height and a continuous programme of training is maintained to enable all employees to achieve their NVQ through the South Wales & South West Roofing Training Group.

Where will it stop . . . The sky is the limit!

When working at heights, ladders can prove dangerous and not ideal for the job in hand, while scaffolding can be expensive and alternative towers are time-consuming to erect. Hazards can then inevitably lead to accidents, or failure to effectively complete the job.

If you have a job that requires working at height then Obriens operated cherry-picker hire service is the safest, quickest and most cost-effective option for you. Our IPAF licensed operators have a wealth of experience in a wide range of access jobs and are fully trained to the current health and safety regulations.

For maximum versatility and manoeuvrability, our truck mounted access platform is well suited to a range of tasks, especially when working on construction sites or drive ways where space and access can be restricted or when you need to go up and over nearby obstacles. Our Platform is also ideal for jobs in highly congested areas, for example supermarket car parks or even large warehouses.

Uses include (but not limited to):

- Building Maintenance
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- Roofing and Building Surveys/Repairs
- PV Panel Cleaning
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- Saves on scaffold costs
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With a 360 Degree Boom-Rotation and 225kg Load Capacity our access platform will fit in a gap as narrow as 2.1 metres wide. Coupled with a Working Height of 20 metres and an Outreach Limit of 12.5 metres our access platform is a very versatile Cherry Picker.

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O'brien Building Services



After years of building under the roofing banner and being asked to carry out more and more building and maintenance works, we set up a dedicated building division to be able to give a better service.

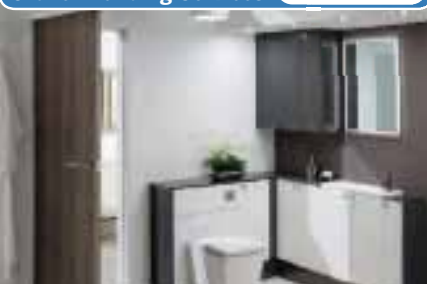
The company has earned an excellent reputation bringing together some of the most experienced craftsmen in the area to undertake construction and building work to the highest standards.

Clients can be assured that there is an emphasis on balance these being time, cost and quality with our in-house team consisting of Commercial Manager, Quantity Surveyors and Contracts Managers to manage these aspects of any project.

Our bricklaying, stonemasonry, groundworks, roofing, carpentry & joinery, painting & decorating, tiling, plastering, electrical and plumbing works - are all completed to the highest standards and all our operatives undertake regular technical and Health & Safety training and offer a courteous and professional service.

We can co-ordinate various trades to complete jobs to a timescale and be cost effective. All it takes is a simple phone call and we can have a member of the team discuss your needs, carry out a survey if required and produce a free, formal estimate without obligation.

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Congratulations to O'brien's
for another successful year!

O'briens frequently carries out projects for Local Authorities, Housing Associations and works with major insurance companies in providing a one stop emergency and reinstatement service, as well as smaller jobs for private individuals gaining a reputation for high quality workmanship, covering Bridport and all surrounding areas.

We will advise on timescales and liaise with you on any access or working time restrictions, keeping you informed and up to date with progress as the works progress. Emergencies can be handled very quickly by a phone call to our Bridport office. The nature of the work can be ascertained at this point and the relative trade operatives dispatched. Sometimes the nature and timing of the work can mean a temporary repair until a full repair can be achieved.

We are accredited by the Federation of Master Builders (FMB) and must meet their strict membership criteria as well as passing their vetting process. We also follow their Code of Practice and carry out regular member inspections.

Health & Safety is paramount to O'briens ensuring our team and everybody involved where we work are kept safe. We utilise Risk and Method statements and our stringent Health & Safety Policy ensures we keep an eye on Health & Safety at all times through any construction work we undertake. We will offer guidance under CDM regulations which now encompasses many residential projects.



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O'brien Scaffolding

To keep up with the demand of scaffolding required for O'brien Roofing & Leadworks, we decided to invest in our own scaffolding division and offer the service to other local tradesmen and private clients. After completing our first year of trading we are looking to branch out and expand to secure potential commercial and domestic contracts. We are more than happy to provide FREE no obligation quotations for your scaffolding requirements.

In 2016, Kevin & Adam Fulbrook joined the O'briens team to help grow the scaffold division. The brothers felt that they could offer a fresh approach, having worked together in the scaffolding industry with a combined experience of over 30 years, offering their values & expertise on a professional yet personal approach to all of our customers.

We can offer competitive, reliable scaffolding services to a wide range of clients (both residential and commercial) in Bridport and the surrounding area.

Our expertise enables us to quote the correct scaffold for your job. We work to NASC recommendations to ensure the scaffold is designed and erected according to their strict structural requirements.

Our staff are certified Scaffold Inspectors as well as CISRS Experienced Scaffolders, and each build comes with a hand over certificate confirming type of build and recommended weight capacities, these can be designed and built to suit your needs within stringent Health and Safety regulations.

O'brien Scaffolding can work to your programme and offer total flexibility to your hire period extending this if required and carry out adaptations to existing scaffolding should your requirements change.

Our aim is to be SAFE and COMPLIANT, put simply this means our scaffolding employees have the correct training to erect, dismantle, certificate and test our installations if required, and comply with BS EN 12811-1:2003

We offer a wide range of scaffolding services in Dorset and the surrounding areas which include:

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Did you know?

A large majority of maintenance and building projects require working at height, this is defined by the Health & Safety Executive as:

"Working in any place where, if there were no precautions in place, a person could fall a distance liable to cause personal injury".

For example you are working at height if you:

- are working on a ladder or a flat roof
- could fall through a fragile surface
- could fall into an opening in a floor or a hole in the ground

Other suitable protection should be used, ie scaffolding.

We have recently installed scaffold alarms to 2 of our largest projects to date and we will be looking to offer this service to all our cus-

tomers, private and commercial if required. It's worth noting that once scaffolding has been erected on your property your contents insurance may become void. The alarm will contact up to three key-holders by telephone and text message when activated, it is armed and disarmed by using remote control from up to 50 meters away (multiple remote controls can be used). There is a built in 130 decibel siren which can be silenced whilst programming the alarm. Although this wouldn't stop your insurance being void it's a very simple solution to help protect your property. Check with your insurance policy/provider for more details.

50% Discount will be offered on our scaffold alarms to any quotation accepted in January and February 2017.

All divisions are covered by CHAS (Contractors Health & Safety Assessments Scheme) and registered with the CITB (Construction Industry Training Board).

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NEW YEAR

New You

What's your New Year's resolution?



Beaminster Chiropractic Clinic

DID YOU KNOW that Christmas is one of the worst times of the year for your spine? Never mind the cold and damp, which can often make areas of old injury ache, there's all the stress associated with travel or visitors – and the extra sitting, often slumped on the sofa with one glass more of muscle relaxant than you're used to!

Fortunately, help is at hand: Beaminster is fortunate to have two musculoskeletal experts ready to treat your festive season moans and groans. Lee Wickham and Martin Young are both Fellows of the Royal College of Chiropractors and are specialist in joint, muscle and ligament problems from the top of your head to the soles of your feet.

Making an appointment for a Seasonal make-over couldn't be simpler – a phone call to Beaminster Chiropractic clinic on 01308 863024 will get you an appointment for a thorough examination, diagnosis and treatment.



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... For your Back Pain

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The Garden Studios Yoga and Therapies

Yoga and Tripudio Movement classes at the Garden Studios Bridport

Classes resume on Monday 2nd January

AS THE new year approaches it is a great time to think about what we need in life to make us feel better, live life to our optimum and most importantly with minimum stress! We can't always change work, and some other aspects to our life but we can find ways to support ourselves with body and mind maintenance!

Here at The Garden Studios we hope to offer some skills that may help you move with ease through the year, complementary therapies with Julia provide not just body maintenance, but deep relaxation too. We maintain our cars but forget ourselves, time to make a change!

Paul teaches regular yoga classes Monday to Thursday, both daytime and evening. Small classes and lots of individual attention make these gentle flowing classes suit both absolute beginners as well as those with more experience.

Hatha yoga incorporates not only stretches and movement, but breathing techniques and guided relaxation. A specific meditation and guided relaxation class is available too.

Classes are available for all ages, and restrictions too, there is a class for everyone. Tripudio Movement classes are particularly helpful for those that find floor work difficult as we stand and sit but don't lie down, gentle effective stretches, mobilization and low impact exercise to a great mix of music. A DVD The Tripudio Flow, making the right moves is now available for home practice too.

The New Year and Garden Studios introduces exercise outside of the studio with

the introduction of Nordic Walking, watch out for details of a series of beginners walks to learn the technique, fitness walks, gentle walks too. These are 1 hour sessions with specific warm up and cool down exercises utilizing the poles. Garden Studios will provide equipment, groups will be lead by both Julia and Paul.

The Garden Studios are tucked away just behind St Swithans Court, St Swithans Rd. Access is by foot just down the service road, just a few minutes walk from town and town car parks too.

For more details call 01308 538112 or 07734 511287, email info@gardenstudiosbridport.co.uk, or visit www.gardenstudiosbridport.co.uk. The Garden Studios is located off St Swithans Road DT6 5DG



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Susan Gale can use hypnotherapy and her years of experience to help you. She has a practical, down to earth approach and always tailors the therapy to the person.

With Hypnotherapy she works with your subconscious to give you the help you need to change for the better. To break out of negative ruts. To enjoy better health and enjoy life more.

Hypnotherapy helps in many ways. Clearing negative habits and behaviours. Releasing stresses and tensions. Restoring confidence and well-being. And much much more.

Susan has been working as a hypnotherapist since 1989 and has helped many people clear many different problems. She now works from the Aquae Sulis Centre in Dorchester.

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NEW YEAR

What's your New Year's resolution? New You



BIN OR KEEP? THE 2016 WELLBEING TRENDS WE WANT TO STICK AROUND

by Abi Jackson, Press Association

WATERMELON - We all carried a watermelon in 2016. Well, those of us who got in on the emerging watermelon juice/water trend did. Yep, move over coconut water (not completely - you're still in pretty high demand), watermelon quenched our thirst and then some this year, topping up our vitamin and potassium levels and aiding in muscle recovery (thanks to its L-citrulline contents) in the process.

VERDICT: Keep. It's tasty, simple and a refreshing (no pun intended) addition to the, arguably over-saturated, 'healthy drinks' market.



HYGGE - OK, the fact snuggling up somewhere cosy and candlelit, with a soothing hot chocolate or glass of red, makes us feel good is hardly groundbreaking. But it was only this year we officially found a name for the cosy good life's happiness-inducing magic: Hygge. It's always been a way of life for the Danes, and this autumn saw it snuggle into our everyday vocabulary too.

VERDICT: Keep! Simple, feel-good and basically achievable every day. What's not to love?

SEAWEED - First came 'courgetti', and then 2016 saw an incoming tide of seaweed 'pasta'. There's a lot going for it: it's sustainable, easy to farm, highly nutritious, gluten-free and low-cal - if a tad salty.

VERDICT: Keep - BUT it's currently too expensive to make it onto our regular shopping lists (expect to pay almost £6 for a 100g bag, while you can easily get a 500g bag of real pasta for £1).



PA Photo/thinkstockphotos

FLAVOURED NUT BUTTER - The nut butter aisles got a LOT more interesting this year, with palm oil-free brands like Pip and Nut bringing us delights such as Honey Cinnamon Cashew Butter and Coconut Almond Butter. Omega-3 and protein-packed goodness and added flavour.

VERDICT: Keep! And Pip & Nut have just announced they're launching 1KG tubs... Happy New Year!

CLEAN EATING - Nobody's really sure what it means... Is it just healthy, proper food all made from scratch, no additives etc?! But, haven't people been doing that for, um, ever? And does it only count as 'clean eating' if you post it on social media? Maybe we're missing something but, either way, it's smug, and ain't nothing wrong with a good 'ol dirty burger every once in a while.

VERDICT: Bin. #PleaseStop

WAIST TRAINING - The Kardashians could post selfies of themselves drenched in cow dung and somebody (read: many) would give it a go, so of course, when they start posting snaps of themselves sporting waist trainers - basically super-tight corsets - and even working out with them on, cue a flurry of copycat attempts to get 'waisted'.

VERDICTS: Bin. Sticking the word 'trainer' in the title doesn't change what it is. A corset doesn't promote fat loss or muscle tone. It just squashes you (and your organs).

SAUNA SUITS - Always thought the priority with fitness attire was to keep you cool and comfortable during those sweaty workouts? Khloe Kardashian took the opposite approach this summer however, when she shared snaps of herself working out in a 'sauna suit'. The clue's in the name: these 'sweat suits', as they're also known, are designed to make you heat up and perspire more.

VERDICT: Bin. Anything that perpetuates the idea it's OK to do daft things in a bid to lose weight fast is just not good. Plus apparently, it's just promoting water loss, which isn't the same as fat loss.

Osprey Leisure Centre

FOR the fifth year running with no increase in membership charges Osprey Leisure Centre is able to offer monthly membership packages which not only allow all current facilities to be used for as little as £25 per month but also permit either longer term or non contract deals to be purchased. For this price the 3 gym areas can be used and members can swim and enjoy the majority of the class programme for this all inclusive amount. This means that every customer is able to 'get more for less' if they

wish. As well as new fitness equipment, new classes in the fitness programme and brand new indoor cycling classes, kettlebell sessions and combination classes on offer this all adds up to an excellent value package to help people achieve their 2017 fitness goals or give them many options including pay and play to help with New Year resolutions. For more information visit the new leisure centre website or call reception, details available on the adjacent advert.



OPEN DAY

14th January 2017 • 10.00am - 9.00pm

FREE

TASTER SESSIONS INCLUDE:

Meet The Clubs

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Snowflake Ball raises £4,360 for charity

A SNOWFLAKE Ball has raised more than £4,000 for a Dorset based charity that supports families.

Local charity Home-Start West Dorset were over the moon with the success of their recent ball held at Athelhampton House.

The black tie event raised £4,362 and will help fund Home-Start's work with local families going through a difficult time due to illness, bereavement and other problems that can be helped with friendship and support.

Guests were treated to pre dinner drinks in the 15th century Great Hall followed by a four course dinner in the Coach House restaurant.

After dinner there was dancing to music by the Saxuality duet.

Senior Organiser Helen Horsley said: "We had magnificent support from many local businesses who were so generous with their gifts for our auction and raffle. We had over 90 prizes. The lots were amazing - a stay at Greenwood Grange, Dorset, a Neff oven from Kitchen Style, a stay at The Park, Cornwall, beauty treats and voucher from Medusa Apothecary, a hamper from the Fridge, sponsored by Pengilly's Solicitors, a round of golf from Came Down Golf Club and lots more. We were bowled over by their generosity."

Helen added: "We'd like to thank our guests and also Athelhampton House. We appreciate their support so much. The money raised will help us continue our work with local families."

If you would like to know more about Home-Start West Dorset, or are interested in volunteering, please call 01305 265072.

New member for Rotary

■ THE manager of Dorchester's popular Plaza Cinema has joined Poundbury Rotary Club.

Dan Phillips introduced himself to club members at his induction, revealing an enthusiasm for dogs (he has two), shooting, and inevitably film, which ironically, he only gets to see after the cinema has closed to

the public.

He also has the distinction of being the youngest member of the club.

The breakfast club suits him due to the everyday commitments of running the Plaza.

Dan was inducted by the club president Helen Horsley at a recent breakfast meeting (pictured right).



Mr and Mrs Christmas spread festive joy



■ MR and Mrs Christmas, AKA Barrie Hain and Sandra James, with residents and activities organiser Sue Goodwin and Colten Companion Jess Larder

CHRISTMAS came early with two special guests at Colten Care's Castle View home in Dorchester.

"Mr and Mrs Christmas" spread festive cheer when they presented gifts to residents before a seasonal lunch and party.

The duo – also known as Barrie Hain and Sandra James – visited rooms and the lounge to give out the presents on behalf of Colten Care.

Celia Watt said: "It was lovely to see Mr and Mrs Christmas."

"They do look after us very well at Castle View. There have been lots of carols and Christmas activities."

Don Skilling added: "There is a real Christmas spirit in the air among the residents and staff. It's a very enjoyable time."

The party also included festive songs and carols. It was among a packed programme of seasonal events lined up at Castle View for Christmas and new year.

Barrie is chairman of the Dorchester,

Weymouth and Portland Parkinson's Group. He and Sandra visit schools, care homes and community groups every year as Mr and Mrs Christmas.

Barrie said: "We really enjoy seeing people's faces light up. There's always a great festive atmosphere at Castle View."

Sandra, who makes their costumes, added: "It's lovely to bring a smile to people's faces."

The Dorchester, Weymouth and Portland Parkinson's Group has 180 members.

Barrie and Sandra don't take payment or donations for their visits, they just like to spread Christmas cheer.

Activities organiser Sue Goodwin and Colten Companion Jess Larder were Santa's elves, helping Mr and Mrs Christmas to deliver presents.

Sue said: "Our greatest thanks to Mr and Mrs Christmas for visiting."

"They really made our day and were warmly received by all of our guests."

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View 2

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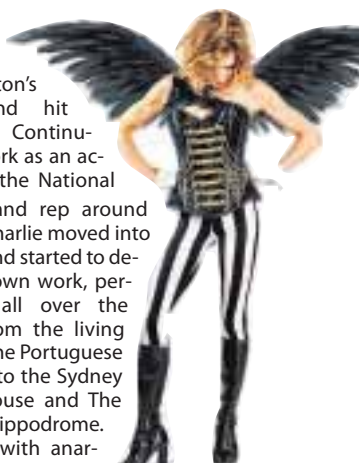
DIVA, TEMPTRESS, vocal sensation and acrobat Charlie Bicknell is a force to be reckoned with in this unique cabaret show, touring with Artsreach following high recommendation from audience members.

Charlie first became a household name playing Delilah in BBC2's 'This Life', and subsequently

starred as Scout in Ben Elton's West End hit 'Popcorn'. Continuing to work as an actress for the National Theatre and rep around the UK, Charlie moved into cabaret and started to devise her own work, performing all over the world; from the living room of the Portuguese Embassy to the Sydney Opera House and The London Hippodrome.

Packed with anarchy, wit and comic ingenuity, Charlie performs songs ranging from Tim Minchin to Meatloaf, Jacques Brel to Bond, and darkly humorous originals which include acrobatic antics! Described by The Observer as "A one woman weapon of mass distraction...kicking, thriving, surprising, shocking and always delighting", Charlie is accompanied by an exceptional pianist. Expect a magnificent evening's entertainment full of darkly comic, twisted songs and theatrical flair! Be aware, this show is suitable for those ages 15+.

Charlie Bicknell performs at Powerstock Hut on Friday, January 20th at 7.30pm. For more details call 01308 485264 or visit www.artsreach.co.uk



This week's new cinema

COLLATERAL ^{12A}

Retreating from life after a tragedy, a man questions the universe by writing to Love, Time and Death. Receiving unexpected answers, he begins to see how these things interlock and how even loss can reveal moments of meaning and beauty.

Stars Will Smith, Edward Norton and Kate Winslet.

WHY HIM? ¹⁵

A HOLIDAY gathering threatens to go off the rails when Ned Fleming realizes that his daughter's Silicon Valley billionaire boyfriend boyfriend is about to pop the question.

Stars Zoey Deutch, James Franco and Bryan Cranston.

MONSTER TRUCKS ^{PG}

LOOKING for any way to get away from the life and town he was born into, Tripp (Lucas Till), a high school senior, builds a Monster Truck from bits and pieces of scrapped cars. After an accident at a nearby oil-drilling site displaces a strange and subterranean creature with a taste and a talent for speed, Tripp may have just found the key to getting out of town and a most unlikely friend.

Stars Lucas Till, Jane Levy and Rob Lowe.

MARAUDERS ¹⁵

When a bank is hit by a brutal heist, all evidence points to the owner and his high-powered clients. But as a group of FBI agents dig deeper into the case - and the deadly heists continue - it becomes clear that a larger conspiracy is at play.

Stars Bruce Willis, Christopher Meloni and Dave Bautista.

Cinema Listings

Fri, Dec 30th - Thu, Jan 5th
ALL LISTINGS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

DORCHESTER PLAZA
Tel: 01305 262488
www.plazadorchester.com

DORCHESTER ODEON
Tel: 0871 22 44 007
www.odeon.co.uk

WEYMOUTH CINEWORLD
Tel: 0871 200 2000 • www.cineworld.co.uk

Listings for all cinemas unavailable at time of print. Please visit the listed website, or call the cinemas directly for more details.

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and **DORCHESTER CAR BOOT**
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View from Newspapers, St Michael's Business Centre, Church Street, Lyme Regis DT7 3DB

UNTIL JANUARY 2ND

LYME REGIS: The Christmas Art Exhibition is a festive show of recent 2D and 3D work by local artists who are members of Town Mill Arts. It is full of inspiring and enticing paintings, sculptures, drawings, pottery, textiles, jewellery and books, ideal for that special Christmas present. Open daily 10.30-4.30. Free admission. The Malthouse Gallery, The Town Mill, Mill Lane, Lyme Regis DT7 3PU www.townmillarts.co.uk

LYME REGIS: Pop Up Vintage is the sixth annual showcase for the up-cycling work of Jan Calow and Mandy Wiscombe, who spend all year sourcing, making, repairing, cleaning and renovating their stock of competitively priced vintage gifts, highly suitable for Secret Santas. Open daily 10.30-4.00. Free admission. The Courtyard Gallery, The Town Mill, Mill Lane, Lyme Regis DT7 3PU www.townmillarts.co.uk

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 21ST

EYPE, BRIDPORT: West Dorset Decorative & Fine Arts Society meeting at Highlands End Leisure Centre. A Musical Celebration of the Christmas Season' with speaker Sarah Deere-Jones. 2.30pm. For more details call 01297 443615.

MARTINSTOWN: Chair-based exercise. Martinstown Village Hall. 11am. For more details call 01308 426390.

DORCHESTER: HMP Dorchester Reunion at the Trinity Club, 7pm til midnight. Live music, disco, raffle and buffet. All former employees welcome. Tickets available on a first come first served basis and are £5 per head, payable in advance. For more details and tickets please email dorchesterprisonreunion@yahoo.com

DORCHESTER: Dorchester Community Church in Acland Road holding a special Christmas coffee pop in. Do come along and enjoy Christmas festivities and a very warm welcome. Anytime between 9.30am and 12noon.

SATURDAY DECEMBER 31ST

BRIDPORT: 2016 New Year's Eve Disco Party at The Beehive, 9pm to 2am. £5 admission, ROAR. Fancy dress optional. Ticketline 07788 943220. All proceeds to Weldon Hospicecare Trust.

THURSDAY JANUARY 5TH

DORCHESTER: The next meeting of the West Dorset Health Service Retirement Fellowship at 2pm in the Boys Brigade Hall, Sawmills Lane, Dorchester DT1 2RZ when Tony Tester will give a talk on Uganda Conservation. The West Dorset Health Service Retirement Fellowship was set up over 30 years ago for retired employees of the Health Service and their partners living in Dorset and meet on the first Thursday of every month except August and December. In addition to the monthly meetings, we have coach outings, a theatre trip and Christmas lunch. New members welcome. Contact 01305 261676 or 785546 for further information.

FRIDAY JANUARY 6TH

WEYMOUTH: Charity Jazz Night for the British Legion. Royal Dorset Yacht Club, 11 Custom House Quay, Weymouth. 8.30 - 11.00pm. Tickets £10 available on the night or in advance from the yacht club or by calling on Jenny on 07854 500 839. No need to be member to attend!

BRIDPORT: Celebrate Twelfth Night with entertainment from Tinker's Cuss Band and the Symonds-bury Mimmers at Bridport Town Hall, from 7.30pm. In aid of Bridport Millennium Green. Tickets £7 (members £6) to include seasonal food and drink, from Sue Wilkinson, 01308 425037.

SATURDAY JANUARY 7TH

BRIDPORT: Bridport Ceilidhs starts the New Year with a bang - and The Chris Toyne Band plus caller Gill Spence. Forget the Christmas pies, get out the dance shoes and come along to Church House (St Mary's) Hall, South Street, DT6 3NW. Bring and Share finger food supper, with some soft drinks provided; bring your own beer/wine and make a party of it. Doors open 7.15 for 7.30 - 11pm dance. Tickets £9 on the door, but cheaper in advance at £8 from "The Music Shop", South Street, "The Lime Tree" Deli, West Street, or online; or book by phone on 01308 423 442 or email monty3dayslate@yahoo.co.uk. See the website for more details and how to buy online: www.bridportceilidhs.wordpress.com

MONDAY JANUARY 9TH

BEAMINSTER: Moviola presents 'Absolutely Fabulous the movie' at Beaminster Public Hall. Doors 7pm, film 7.30pm. Tickets at Yarn Barton (01308 862715) weekdays 9.30-12.30, and Saturdays 9.30-1pm. Or call 01308 861746. £5 in advance, or £5.50 on the door.

BURTON BRADSTOCK: Biondanza at Othona. Express, Connect, Relax! Dance like no one's watching, no

steps to learn, no partner needed, uplifting world music and holistic health benefits. For all ages from 19 to 90. 7.15pm for 7.30pm. Join in bimonthly with teacher Julia Hope-Brightwell (Jewell). Cost £8 (Cons avail). Othona Community, Coast Road, Burton Bradstock DT6 4RN. Contact Robin 01308 897 130 / biondanza-bridport.co.uk

BRIDPORT: Bridport Folk Dance Club meets at 7.30-9.30 pm in the WI Hall, North Street, Bridport. Enjoy folk dancing mainly in the English tradition from Playford-style to modern-day compositions at Bridport's long-established weekly club, with club callers and recorded music and frequently on last Mondays of the month live music with guest callers. No partner or previous experience required. Membership available giving admission at £2.50, otherwise £3.00. Contact Jane on 01308 898 002 or Monty on 01308 423 442. (Also on 16th, and 23rd)

SUNDAY JANUARY 15TH

BRIDPORT: Allington Strings New Year Concert at 3pm at Sir John Colfox Academy, Ridgeway. Arturo Serna conducts the Allington Strings in a programme of light classical favourites including Pachelbel's Canon, Bach's Double Violin Concerto, Mozart's Divertimento no 2, Mendelssohn's Sinfonia No1, Gershwin's Love Walked In and Percy Grainger's Mock Morris. Tickets £10 (under 18's free) available on the door or in advance from Bridport Music.

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 18TH

EYPE, NEAR BRIDPORT: West Dorset Decorative & Fine Arts Society lecture. 'The Story of Sutton Hoo Ship Burial' speaker Mark Cottle. At Highlands End Leisure Centre, 2.30pm. For more details call 01297 443615.

THURSDAY JANUARY 19TH

BRIDPORT: Bridport & District Gardening Club meeting at the Women's Institute Hall, North Street, 7.30pm. Speaker Chris Ireland-Jones on 'Bulbs for All Seasons'.

MONDAY JANUARY 23RD

BURTON BRADSTOCK: Biondanza at Othona. Express, Connect, Relax! Dance like no one's watching, no steps to learn, no partner needed, uplifting world music and holistic health benefits. For all ages from 19 to 90. 7.15pm for 7.30pm. Join in bimonthly with teacher Julia Hope-Brightwell (Jewell). Cost £8 (Cons avail). Othona Community, Coast Road, Burton Bradstock DT6 4RN. Contact Robin 01308 897 130 / biondanza-bridport.co.uk

SATURDAY JANUARY 28TH

WOOTTON FITZPAINE: Nick Hennessey and Suunta - Fire in the North Sky. At Wootton Village Hall, 7.30pm. Suitable for ages 12+. Tickets £9, under 18 £7, family £28. Self service box office at the Charmouth Practice, info 01297 560872.

MONDAY JANUARY 30TH

BRIDPORT: Bridport Folk Dance Club's last Monday of the month, with Chris Toyne providing their music, at 7.30-9.30 pm in the WI Hall, North Street. Enjoy folk dancing mainly in the English tradition from Playford-style to modern-day compositions at Bridport's long-established weekly club. No partner or previous experience required. Entry £4 on guest band nights. Contact Jane on 01308 898 002 or Monty on 01308 423 442.

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 1ST

BRIDPORT: Bridport Library are starting a 'Reminiscence' group once a month. Join us for reminiscence, chat and company at Bridport Library. 2-3pm.

MONDAY FEBRUARY 13TH

BURTON BRADSTOCK: Biondanza at Othona. Express, Connect, Relax! Dance like no one's watching, no steps to learn, no partner needed, uplifting world music and holistic health benefits. For all ages from 19 to 90. 7.15pm for 7.30pm. Join in bimonthly with teacher Julia Hope-Brightwell (Jewell). Cost £8 (Cons avail). Othona Community, Coast Road, Burton Bradstock DT6 4RN. Contact Robin 01308 897 130 / biondanza-bridport.co.uk

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 14TH - SATURDAY 18TH

BUCKLAND NEWTON: Piddle Valley Players proudly presents Guys and Dolls, at Buckland Newton Village Hall, 7pm. £10 including refreshments. Tickets from Old Chapel Stores, Buckland Netwon and Piddletrenthide Post Office from January.

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 15TH

EYPE, NEAR BRIDPORT: West Dorset Decorative & Fine Arts Society lecture. 'The Glasgow Girls' speaker Jennie Spiers. At Highlands End Leisure Centre, 2.30pm. For more details call 01297 443615.

TRANSMISSION

Your guide to local live music

The gigs

Saturday 31 Dec

Pilot Boat, LYME REGIS

The Sidekicks

The Clockhouse, CHIDEOCK

John De Barra

Crown Inn, BRIDPORT

DJ Wilf 9.30pm

Sunday 1 Jan

Crown Inn, BRIDPORT

Jamming at the Crown 4pm

Saturday 7 Jan

Crown Inn, BRIDPORT

Trouble In Mind 9.30pm

The venues

THE CROWN INN
WEST BAY ROAD, BRIDPORT

Saturday 31st December, 9.30pm
DJ WILF

Sunday 1st January, 4.00pm
JAMMING AT THE CROWN

Saturday 7th January, 9.30pm
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Folk stars Kathryn Roberts and Sean Lakeman for Dorset tour

CROWNED winners of the BBC Radio 2 Folk Award for Best Duo in both 2013 and again in 2016, Kathryn Roberts and Sean Lakeman have long established themselves as one of the UK folk scene's most rewardingly enduring partnerships. Now this spring the duo embark on a four date Dorset tour through Artsreach, the counties arts charity.

Yvonne Gallimore, Artsreach Co Director, said "Working with the support of our partners Blanchards Bailey, it's always exciting to bring a new act to Dorset as part of the Artsreach programme. Given the popularity of folk music in the region, and the national acclaim this duo have, I'm certain tickets are going to be in high demand!"

Whether on stage or in the recording studio, Sean Lakeman is a tour-de-force of modern folk music. The eldest of the 3 'Lakeman Brothers', Sean has played the guitar since the age of six and was recognized at an early age as one of the most promising guitarists around. Sean has famously orchestrated the sound of his younger brother 'Seth', producing his most successful albums and scooping many awards. As well as producing all four Kathryn Roberts & Sean Lakeman albums his production credits include some of the biggest names in British folk and folk-rock, including Levellers, Seth Lakeman, Frank Turner, Billy Bragg, Imelda May, Bellowhead, Rev Hammer and Show of

Hands.

A lauded singer, one of the finest of her generation, Kathryn is held in the highest regard by peers and music fans alike. An early duo career with Kate Rusby led to much critical acclaim and an award-winning album, along with Kathryn being the first singer to win the revered BBC Young Tradition award. Many

years fronting folk-pop band Equation band saw Kathryn grace exotic stages all over the world.

Four acclaimed albums and a 'Best Duo' award at the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards followed their return to their English folk roots scene, and has helped them cement a formidable reputation at the very forefront



Sean Lakeman and Kathryn Roberts

of British contemporary folk music.

The duo play at the Comrades Hall, Broadwindsor on Saturday, January 14th at 7.30pm (call 01308 867644 for more details), and Piddletrenthide Memorial Hall on Sunday, January 15th at 4pm (01300 348247).

Boogie Woogie with Bob Hall at the Jazz Café

CRITICALLY acknowledged as Britain's nest blues and boogie pianist, Bob Hall came to fame in the rhythm 'n' blues explosion of the sixties, as a founder member of The Groundhogs. He has played with many of the greats including Alexis Korner, Spencer Davis, John Lee Hooker, Howlin' Wolf and Chuck Berry. He appears with Hilary Blythe who provides crystal-clear vocals and rock-steady bass. Both are multi-instrumentalists who present a unique show which ventures beyond boogie to include homespun folk songs and blues, old-time country and gospel. Bob Hall plays at the Bridport Arts Centre Jazz Cafe on Friday, January 13th at 8pm. Tickets are £10, available by calling 01308 424204 or online www.bridport-arts.com



Bob Hall

Harman in Harmony

JO HARMAN is an award winning vocalist, songwriter and band leader who has performed at some of Europe's most prestigious venues, and she will be performing live at Dorchester Corn Exchange in February.

The Daily Mirror called her "the finest female soul blues vocalist in the U" and Huey Morgan (Fun Lovin Criminals) said on his Radio 2 programme: "sometimes you hear a voice that leaves you speechless...I am".

Jo has also been asked to perform at a number of high profile events including Amnesty's International's Ambassador of Conscience Awards in Berlin where she performed for, and with, Joan Baez and Patti Smith. In 2014 she was won 'Female Vocalist of the Year' at the British Blues Awards and was runner up in the 'Songwriter of the Year' category.

In her live show, Jo performs a mixture of her own compositions and covers, ranging from hard rock to heart melting ballads – all performed with utter conviction alongside her first rate band.

Jo Harman and her band play

at Dorchester Corn Exchange on Saturday, February 11th.

Tickets are £17 or £15 (members & concessions), available by calling 01305 266926, or visit www.dorchesterarts.org.uk



Jo Harman

Nicky Sweetland's

Showtime

OUR NEW SHOWBIZ COLUMN

150 pro shows, 50 celebs, 30 amateur performances, and one year of theatre fun

WITH the end of 2016 fast approaching, I thought it would be fitting to appraise my adventures in theatreland over the last 12 months. It's been an epic year, as I've visited over 30 amateur shows and around 150 different professional productions. I've revisited some of my favourite long running musicals, including Wicked (which I watched eight times), Kinky Boots (five times) and The Phantom of the Opera (just twice!). I have also met and interviewed around 50 celebrities of varying degrees of fame including Sir Ian

McKellen (intelligent and imposing), Catherine Tate (frosty), David Hasselhoff (bizarre) and one of my musical theatre idols, Ruthie Henshall, who was an absolute delight. The highlight however, was when I got to have coffee with some of the real Calendar Girls, who were promoting a new musical based on their story, which has been written by Gary Barlow and Tim Firth and will open in the West End early next year. I was taken with how passionate they are about the charity they set up over 18 years ago to raise money for victims of blood cancer and

their families - truly inspirational.

I also caught some new shows including Harry Potter and the Cursed Child (awesome, but I had a nap), Dreamgirls (superb), Half a Sixpence (glorious) and Aladdin (heart-warming) plus a few, which have already been and gone like Groundhog Day, Guys and Dolls, Funny Girl, and Mrs. Henderson Presents.

I've seen straight plays, comedies, circus, one man shows, two handers, Shakespeare and some fully staged extravaganzas, but I have to say it's still the musicals, which are my real source of joy, with shows like Kinky Boots, The Book of Mormon and Mamma Mia!, always worth a visit if you are feeling low.

If I had to choose my favourite, it is still Wicked however; the musical which follows the witches of OZ and offers everything I want from a night out at the theatre. I'll be sneaking along to the Apollo Victoria theatre to see it next week for the 21st time!

From the plethora of local talent I have been very fortunate to witness this year I would have to choose Colyton Theatre Group's Cinderella

as my top production; hilariously funny, well directed and not too self-indulgent (something which is often an issue with non-professional shows).

2017 will offer another theatrical feast for audiences in the local area, with both Lyme Regis Pantomime Society and Axminster Drama Club presenting their takes on Robinson Crusoe at the beginning of the year. Cudos in Crewkerne are promising an extravaganza with their pantomime Rapunzel and the Membury Merry-makers are putting on Pandora's Box The Pantomime in their village hall. Other highlights will include Bridport Musical Theatre Company's Showstoppers, Axminster Musical Theatre's Magic of the Musicals, Lyme Regis Musical Theatre's presentation of the classic musical comedy Thoroughly Modern Millie and Axminster Drama Club Youth's production of the heart-breaking Blood Brothers in July.

In London, there are hundreds of Off-West Shows, which are set to be big hits next year including The Wild Party at The Other Palace (which stars my dear friend and Tony Award win-



Colyton's performance of Cinderella is a local highlight from the last 12 months

ner Frances Rufelle), Stephen Sondheim's Frogs at the Jermyn Street Theatre and Burt Bacharach's Promises, Promises at Southwark Playhouse. The big West End openings include The Girls, Follies, An American in Paris, 42nd Street and Stepping Out, which boasts an all-star cast including Amanda

Holden and Tamsin Outhwaite (I watched the play when it was on tour and I wasn't impressed!). The biggest opening of the year however, will be Hamilton at the Victoria Palace; an American musical, which has taken the world by storm and promises to be the West End's hot ticket next Christmas.

I've still got a couple more shows to fit in before the end of the year with the cult musical Rent and the David Bowie musical Lazarus on my schedule.

With so many shows to see next year, I'm not sure how I will find the time. Well, that's not really true, as my theatre addiction will ensure I

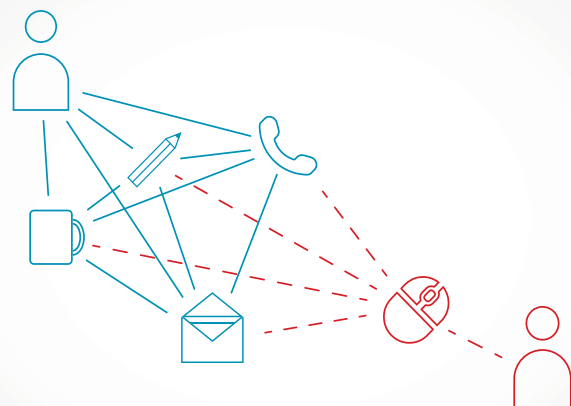
fill as many of the 525600 minutes (it's a lyric from Rent!) of 2017 with theatre as I can.

You can read all of my reviews and interviews on our websites londonnewsline.co.uk and viewnews.co.uk or you can follow me on Twitter for regular updates @NickySweetland



Eight times a charm for Wicked

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The BMW 530e iPerformance Saloon

The world's most successful business saloon is now also available as a plug-in hybrid

IN MARCH 2017, a plug-in hybrid variant of the all new BMW 5 Series will complete the 5 Series range. Featuring technology derived directly from the BMW i brand, the BMW 530e iPerformance Saloon offers a dynamic driving experience with exceptionally efficient performance as well as all-electric mobility with zero tailpipe emissions, as and when required.

The intelligently controlled interaction between the combustion engine and the electric drive, which together generate a total system output of 252hp, gives the BMW 530e Saloon rapid acceleration while offering a substantial reduction in fuel consumption and emissions. The BMW 530e achieves combined fuel consumption of 141.2mpg, and a combined electricity consumption of 9.2kWh with CO2 emissions of just 46g/km.

Power delivery on a par with a high-displacement combustion engine.

The BMW eDrive system's state-of-the-art electric motor has an output of 95hp and maximum torque of 250Nm, while the four-cylinder combustion engine with its 2.0-litre displacement generates 184hp and 320Nm of torque. The overall system output of 252hp and combined peak torque of 420Nm allows the BMW 530e to sprint from zero to 62mph in 6.2 seconds

and enable it to reach a top speed of 146mph while CO2 emissions of the BMW 530e are just 46g/km.

The BMW 530e iPerformance has a range of nearly 400 miles in real-world driving and is capable of covering distances of up to 29 miles using purely electric power at a maximum speed of 87mph. The electric motor and combustion engine direct their power to the saloon's rear wheels via the standard eight-speed Steptronic transmission. Positioning the electric motor upstream from the transmission allows the transmission's ratios to be used in all-electric mode too. This dispenses with the need for a torque converter, reducing the overall weight of the vehicle.

The high-voltage battery pack, consisting of lithium-ion cells with a total capacity of 9.2kWh, has been placed in a space-saving location underneath the rear seat and includes efficient refrigerant cooling with a highly integrated low-temperature circuit. Thanks to the battery's neat installation, the BMW 530e Saloon offers 410 litres of boot capacity and a flat load compartment floor. The high-voltage battery of the BMW 530e Saloon can be fully charged in under five hours from a standard domestic power socket and in under three hours if it is hooked up to a

BMW iWallbox (3.7 kW charging capacity).

BMW eDrive adapts and anticipates

As well as the Driving Experience Control switch, with its SPORT, COMFORT and ECO PRO settings, drivers will also find an eDrive button at their disposal. This lets them tailor the BMW eDrive system's operation even more precisely to the journey ahead through three driving modes: AUTO eDRIVE, MAX eDRIVE and BATTERY CONTROL.

AUTO eDRIVE ensures that the engine and electric motor interact to optimum effect in all driving situations and allows an all-electric top speed of 56mph. This mode is automatically activated as the default setting every time the vehicle is started. When MAX eDRIVE mode is selected, the BMW 530e Saloon drives on electric power alone. To do so, it uses the electric drive's full power and can attain a maximum speed of 87mph. However, if the accelerator is pressed through to kickdown the engine will cut in, which is handy should an extra boost of power be desired – when overtaking, for example.

BATTERY CONTROL mode lets the driver set the charge level for the high-voltage battery manually. The target value can be adjusted to between 30 and 100 per cent of maximum charge, allowing that pro-

portion of the battery's capacity to be reserved for all-electric driving at a later point in the journey. The intelligent battery management of the BMW 530e Saloon either keeps the high-voltage battery's charge constant at the selected level or increases it to the pre-set value, with the electric motor acting as a generator. In this way, BATTERY CONTROL mode

makes it possible to conserve or even increase the reserves of electric power while travelling on the motorway, for example, in order to ensure that an upcoming section through an urban area can be covered with zero local emissions.

The BMW 530e is available to order from mid-January and OTR prices start at £43,985.



▲ The BMW 530e iPerformance Saloon



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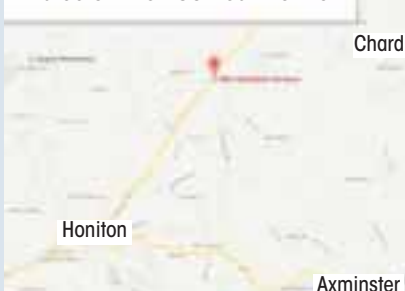
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ELECTRIC-VILLAGE.COM is the first review website for a new generation of electric vehicle charging equipment and services. It gives plug-in vehicle drivers the widest possible choice, provides up-front benefit of the Government's 75 per cent Homecharge or Workplace grant (where applicable), and introduces many new ideas and products to the UK market for the first time.

As electric car sales continue to grow exponentially, charging equipment manufacturers are busy responding with new and better products. Until now plug-in car charging options have been mostly installer or dealer-led and relatively limited. The Electric Village website brings more choice, new technologies and exclusive offerings together into a single marketplace and provides independent reviews.

Stewart McKee, created Electric Village. He says: 'Compared to as little as 18 months ago there is now much more choice for the home, public space and workplace in terms of value and new technologies. We have done all the technical legwork. If a charging system makes it into Electric Vil-

lage, it's the simply best at what is designed to do'.

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XQ2016 held by Hopefuls

RESULTS: West Dorset Club A 6 WDC Whipping Boys 1, Colliton XQ 2016 4 Colliton Hopefuls 4, Trinity M 3 Colliton Hopefuls 4, WDC YYMFD 5 WDC Team Shaky 3, Purbeck Potters 5 Colliton XQ 2016 3.

Top Breaks: G Bartlett 53; A Page 38, 28, 24; M Pike 31.

Top Break of the Season: G Bartlett & Ollie Lewis both 53.

Team Handicap knock-out cup - R1 results
Colliton XQ 2016 4 WDC YYMFD 2, Trinity M 4 WDC Team Shaky 1, WDC Whipping Boys 2 Colliton Hopefuls 4, Purbeck Potters v West Dorset Club A - cancelled - being played over Christmas period.

Semi-final draw: Colliton Hopefuls v Trinity M (Wednesday, February 1st - venue tba), Colliton XQ 2016 v Purbeck Potters or West Dorset Club A (Thursday, February 2nd at Trinity Club).

Team Open Knock Out Cup - Semi-final draw: Colliton XQ 2016 v WD Club A (Mon, Jan 30th at Trinity Club), WDC YYMFD v Trinity M (Tues, Jan 31st at Colliton Club).

Rearranged matches: WDC YYMFD v Colliton Hopefuls (Dec 20th) West Dorset Club A v Colliton Hopefuls (Jan 5th).

Table	Pld	Pts
West Dorset Club A	10	46
Colliton XQ2016	11	43
WDC Team Shaky	11	40
Trinity M	11	40
Purbeck Potters	11	39
Colliton Hopefuls	9	38
WDC YYMFD	10	32
WDC Whipp'Boys	11	21

Boxing

Fight night boost for Kingfisher Ward

THE fight to save Kingfisher Ward has been boosted by hundreds of pounds, thanks to Weymouth's Riviera Hotel.

More than £1,300 was raised for Dorchester Hospital's children's facility, courtesy of a martial arts night held at the Bowleaze venue.

The event, which featured junior members from King Tiger Club, was organised by parents of youngsters whose lives have been saved by doctors and nurses on Kingfisher the popular ward.

Over 200 fight fans packed the hotel's Ballroom to watch 16 bouts of kick-boxing with competitors as young as five years old taking part.

Riviera assistant bar manager, Craig Elliott, whose daughter Destiny was admitted to Kingfisher after contracting RSV bronchiolitis, said: "What a truly wonderful night it was. The fighting was really entertaining and everyone had a



◆ **WONDERFUL EVENING:** There was a crowd of over 200 in attendance at the Riviera Centre with all of the youthful boxers enjoying the support.



great time.

"But most importantly we were able to raise a huge sum of money for the Kingfisher Ward.

"The Kingfisher Ward has a special place in some many people's hearts, mine included. If wasn't for the amazing work carried out by staff there my daughter would not be alive."

The cash raised came from entrance fees and from a grand raffle made possible by big-heated local businesses.

Craig added: "The generosity of people has been overwhelming.

"There are so many kind people and business owners out there - too many to mention - and I send my sincere thanks and appreciation to all of them.

"But I must make special mention to fellow parent, Micky Mooney. This was Micky's brainchild as he wanted to say thanks for all the treatment his young son Freddie has been receiving at Kingfisher over recent years."



Indoor bowls - Moonfleet

Moonfleet Ladies edge through after second shoot-out

MOONFLEET Ladies took on **DORCHESTER C** in the latest round of the Mason National Competition.

The home rink of Irene Martindill, Sheila Goddard, Linda Bryson & skip Gerd Holmes had a slow start against the Dorchester rink with skip M Cullip who were 11-0 ahead after five ends.

The Moonfleet quartet then came to life and, during the middle part of the game, but Dorchester were lying 17-8 ahead by end 14. But the final four ends went to the hosts who managed to close the gap to finish just three shots behind 14-17.

At Dorchester Margaret Hooper, June Searle, Chris Thompson & skip Kath Desmond had a very even start against the home rink with skip B Lacey with both teams on six shots after six ends.

The game of cat and mouse continued throughout the middle part of the game and by end 14, Moonfleet were just one shot ahead 13-12.

The final four ends went mostly Moonfleet's way to leave them with a 17-14 win.

This meant the overall combined score was 31-31 so, as in the previous round, an extra end had to be played which Moonfleet won taking them into the next round where they face Dorchester B.

Moonfleet B 49 East Dorset B 35

MOONFLEET B entertained East Dorset in Ladies County League. Jill Poulter, Mary Corben, Ruby Spavins & skip Rose Giles set off into an early lead against the East Dorset rink with skip B Doling and by end nine the hosts were 16-3 ahead.

The Moonfleet quartet continued to dominate over the next seven ends increasing their lead to 23-9 and, although the visitors did add to their total, the Moonfleet rink claimed a very comfortable 27-15 victory.

On the other rink Mary Dunne, Penny Dewey, Judy Why & skip Trixie Dempsey had a close first five ends against the East Dorset quartet with skip M Glynn with the scores level at 4-4.

Moonfleet gradually pulled away to lie 17-9 ahead by end 17 and added five shots over the last four ends to East Dorset's one, the hosts finished with a convincing 22-10 win and an overall 49-35 total.

Moonfleet B 40 Bridport B 25

MOONFLEET B travelled to Bridport for their last match of 2016 in the Ladies County League.

Pam Hayward, Julie Watts, Karen Hofen & skip Jo Taylor moved into an early lead against the Bridport rink with skip J Tattershall and by end seven they were 9-1 ahead. The hosts then came to life and by

end 12 they had closed the gap to 9-7.

Moonfleet then took back control and added 10 shots over the next four ends to lead 19-7 by end 16. The Moonfleet quartet kept up the pressure over the remaining five ends to claim a very comfortable 24-10 victory.

Mary Dunne, Mary Corben, Mo Morgan & skip Ann Jones had a close contest against the Bridport quartet with both rinks on four shots after six ends.

Moonfleet then edged ahead and looked to be in control at 11-5 by end 12.

The hosts went up a gear and, keeping Moonfleet out of the contest, the Bridport quartet had drawn level 13-13 by end 17.

After the penultimate end Moonfleet were one shot behind, but two shots on the last end gave the victory to the visitors 16-15 and an overall 40-25 total.

Moonfleet C 40 Dorchester C 27

MOONFLEET C travelled to Dorchester in this latest Ladies County League fixture. Audrey Reay, Maureen Plummer, Celia Robertson & skip Karen Hofen had a close match against the Dorchester rink and by end six both sides were on five shots.

The Dorchester quartet then took control and over the next five ends had moved into a 12-6 lead. It was then Moonfleet's turn to put on the pressure and, winning the next

seven ends, the visitors had moved into a 16-12 lead. Over the final three ends they kept their nerve to secure a 17-14 victory.

On the other rink Lynn Wellman, Margaret Dethick, Sheila Chilvers & skip Ann Jones took complete control of the first half winning nine out of the first 11 ends to lead 14-7.

Although the Dorchester rink with skip V Cornick did add to their score, it was the Moonfleet quartet who dominated for the rest of the game, allowing the hosts to win only three out of the last 10 ends and claiming a comfortable 23-13 victory and an overall 40-27 total.

Moonfleet Ladies in Yetton Trophy nailbiter

MOONFLEET'S two home and two away rinks had a cliffhanger match against Ilminster in this latest round of the National Yetton knock out competition.

The first away rink of Margaret Hooper, Madge Churches, Ruthie Neary and skip Carole Venton had a tough game against the Ilminster rink who took control early and continued to dominate to end with an 18-10 shot victory.

On the other away rink June Searle, Sheila Goddard, Linda Bryson and skip Gerd Holmes had an incredibly close tussle and after seven ends were level at 7-7.

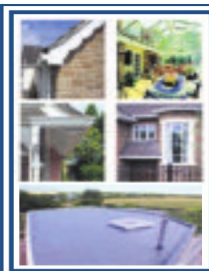
Moonfleet then started to nudge ahead, but a timely four shot haul to Ilminster meant that again both rinks were level by end 13. The last five ends saw the same pattern so not surprisingly the game ended with an 18-10 shot draw.

At home Irene Martindill, Chris Thompson, Shirley Bowley and skip Margaret Crawford had a similar game against the Ilminster rink with skip M Woodland. After eight ends and with both rinks on eight shots apiece, it looked like another evenly matched contest.

However, the Moonfleet ladies began to pull ahead and by end 13 helped by a four shot take they were sitting on a 15-9 lead. Ilminster though went up a gear and, keeping the Moonfleet foursome out of the remainder of the game, the Woodland rink added six shots to level the score at 15-15.

The other home rink of Gill Lock, Thelma Nash, Helen Monelle and skip Kath Desmond again had a very close first half with both rinks on eight shots by end eight.

Although the visitors pulled slightly ahead, it was the Moonfleet quartet who dominated the last seven ends and surged ahead adding 14 shots to claim a very comfortable 22-12 victory and with it an overall 65-63 total to carry them through to the next round where they will face Torquay Utd.



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INSIDE: Local festive sport round-up

Double success for Kirby and daughter

THE trials season in Dorset continued with a return to field-based events with the recent Hardy Classic trial when 25 drivers contested the Autotechnics Trophy trial at Hogcliff Farm near Dorchester.

Four rounds of six tests provided the challenge although the dry ground conditions were destined to provide close competition across the two major classes.

Battle was joined at an early stage in the Class 1 which catered for both front and rear wheel drive cars, which were not carrying ballast, with Peugeot 106 pilot Jez Searle shaping-up against Dave Atkins at the wheel of his 1587cc Citroen Saxo.

The fourth section provided the first defining test with Atkins gaining four penalty points against the single penalty of Searle who took the lead but a dropped score of three during the second round of sections saw the two level at the lunch-break.

The battle between the French machines continued with the Peugeot man complet-

ing the third run having only added a single point to his penalty cache whilst the Saxo driver added two to his tally.

During the final sextuplet of sections Searle advanced without further loss whilst Atkins dropped a further single point to finish two marks in arrears of the class winner.

The rear wheel drive category win went to Weymouth driver Alastair Stevenson in his MG TF whilst Maiden Newton's Sarah Kirby, sharing the driving duties in her father's Citroen Saxo won the award for the Best Performance by a Lady Driver.

The front wheel drive division (with ballast) provided a six-way battle that determined the winner of the event outright as well as the podium finishers in the class.

Pre-event favourite, Sherborne's Mark Hoppe, lost ground to his adversaries on the critical fourth test with four penalties whilst his challengers lost a single mark.

At the end of the first round John Kirby, from Maiden Newton, had progressed without further loss to gain a one point ad-

vantage over fellow Citroen Saxo driver Shawn Franklin and Ford Fiesta mounted Dominic Bishop.

The second round of tests saw Bishop, from Bere Regis, take two single penalties to go into lunch level with Hoppe and now two points down of Kirby.

The third round saw the leading protagonists go clear but four penalties for Franklin, just three sections from the finish, dropped him to third in class in the final results, two points down on Bishop and Hoppe with the latter gaining the verdict by virtue of amassing 23 cleaned sections to Bishop's 20.

A well-judged and penalty free drive through the afternoon tests saw John Kirby finish on just two penalty points a performance which netted him the trophy for first overall.

Whilst the battle for overall honours was hard fought elsewhere in the entry list were two 18 year old drivers making their trials debut as part of a new initiative from Wool-



◆ TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS: Jonah Alexander (driving) and Josh Lightfoot 'graze' a penalty marker on their trial debut. Photo by STAFFORD ASSOCIATES

bridge Motor Club.

Josh Lightfoot and Jonah Alexander were at the wheel of a Vauxhall Corsa provided by Autotechnics of Weymouth to enable

young drivers from as young as 14 years (with a full driving licence holder of over 18 years of age in the front passenger seat) to try their hand at the sport.

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